

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 05587 101424Z

50/44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 AID-20 DPW-01 IO-13 RSR-01 /138 W

----- 055432

O R 101047Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5328

DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL UDORN

USDEL JEC PARIS

USIA WASHDC

SECDEF

USDAO SAIGON

DIRNSA FT GG MEADE MD

CINCPAC

CINCUSARPAC

COMUSMACTHAI

DEPCHJUSMAGTHAI

CINCPACFLT

CINCPACAF

CDR USSAG NKP

CDR 13 AF ADVON UDORN

388 TFW KORAT

DODSPECREP BANGKOK

DODSPECREP NKP

CHSPECATS BANGKOK

7 ACCS KORAT

354 TFW KORAT RTAFB

56 SOW NKP

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432 TRW UDORN

CDR JCRC NKP
8 TFW UBON
ARMA/AIRA VTN LAOS
ARMA/AIRA SVKT LAOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 5587

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD: 13 AF ADVON, 432 TFW, 56 SOW,
388 TFW, 354 TFW AND 8 TFW FOR DO/DI; MACTHAI FOR J-2
AND PAO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, PFOR, LA
SUBJECT: LAO SITUATION REPORT - 10 AUGUST 1973

I. MILITARY SITUATION

A. MR'S I, II AND V: NO ACTIVITY REPORTED AUGUST 8-10.

B. MR III: TWO MINOR ENEMY-INITIATED ATTACKS OCCURRED
AUGUST 7 IN BAN BUN XANG AREA (WD 4211). FIRST WAS PLATOON-
SIZED ENGAGEMENT IN WHICH ENEMY LOST 2 KIA AND 3 WIA.
SECOND OCCURRED WHEN PL COMPANY ATTACKED FRIENDLY COMPANY,
SUFFERING 3 KIA AND 4 WIA.

C. MR IV: COMBAT ACTIVITY CONTINUED 20 KM EAST/NORTHEAST
OF KHONG SEDONE, WITH MINOR GROUND ACTION, INVOLVING PLATOON
AND SMALLER SIZED UNITS, TAKING PLACE AUGUST 8-9. NO
CASUALTIES REPORTED. MAJOR GROUND ATTACK OCCURRED 9
KM EAST/SOUTHEAST OF KHONG SEDONE AUGUST 8, WHEN TWO FRIENDLY
COMPANIES CLASHED WITH TWO ENEMY COMPANIES, SUPPORTED BY
MORTAR/ROCKET FIRE. NO CASUALTIES REPORTED. ANOTHER
MAJOR GROUND ATTACK OCCURRED AUGUST 9, WHEN FRIENDLY
COMPANIES FOUGHT WITH TWO COMPANIES PL/NVA 13 KM NORTH OF
KHONG ISLAND. FRIENDS LOST 5 WIA AND CAPTURED ONE PATHET
LAO.

II. POLITICAL SITUATION

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A. NEGOTIATORS CONTINUE TO WRESTLE WITH FEW REMAINING
PROBLEMS IN MILITARY PORTION OF PROTOCOL. CONSERVATIVE
ELEMENTS IN RLG ARE STILL SEEKING TO DELAY AGREEMENT AND
NEGOTIATORS ON BOTH SIDES ARE APPARENTLY LOOKING TO PRIME
MINISTER TO ARBITRATE REMAINING DIFFERENCES.

B. XAT LAO CITES RLG PLENIPOTENTIARY PHENG PHONGSAVAN AS

SAYING AT PRESS CONFERENCE AUGUST 9 THAT, IF THE TWO SIDES CONTINUE TO NEGOTIATE IN A SPIRIT OF MAKING MUTUAL CONCESSIONS, THEN THERE IS A GOOD CHANCE THAT PROTOCOLS TO VIENTIANE ACCORDS WILL BE SIGNED WITHIN THE TIMEFRAME MENTIONED RECENTLY BY PRIME MINISTER SOUVANNA TO A GERMAN JOURNALIST (I.E., AUGUST 15). PHENG ADDED, "THE LAOS AFFAIRS SHOULD CONCERN ONLY THE LAO. IT SHOULD BE RESOLVED BY THE LAO THEMSELVES WITHOUT ANY EXTERNAL PRESSURES." HE NOTED THAT RLG WILL ABIDE BY THE CONSTITUTION, SAYING, "WE WILL CONSULT WITH THE ASSEMBLY TO CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE OF COMPREHENSION." HE ADDED THAT HE EXPECTED NO DIFFICULTY EITHER FROM THE ASSEMBLY OR THE PATHET LAO, ADDING THAT THE LPF "DO NOT REJECT THE CONSTITUTION OR THE (CONCEPT OF) A DEMOCRATIC REGIME" (SIC).

C. RADIO PATHET LAO (RPL) AND THE PATHET LAO NEWS AGENCY (LPNA), AUGUST 9, ZEROED IN ON DOD STATEMENT THAT U.S. WOULD CONTINUE UNARMED RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS OVER LAOS AND CAMBODIA AFTER AUGUST 15. BOTH DESCRIBED SUCH REMARKS AS AN AFFRONT TO LAOTIAN SOVEREIGNTY AND INDEPENDENCE, ADDING THAT SUCH FLIGHTS WOULD VIOLATE VIENTIANE ACCORDS.

D. THE PRIME MINISTER SAW BOTH PHENG PHONGSAVAN AND LPF PLENIPOTENTIARY PHOUMI VONGVICHIT TODAY (AUGUST 10), IN SEPARATE SESSIONS, TO DISCUSS THE NEGOTIATIONS.
DEAN

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